[MS-STANXIMAP]: RFC 3501 - Exchange IMAP Standards Compliance

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Revision Summary			
Author	Date	Version	Comments
Microsoft Corporation	October 1, 2008	1.0	Initial Release.
Microsoft Corporation	December 3, 2008	1.01	Updated IP notice.
Microsoft Corporation	April 10, 2009	2.0	Updated technical content and applicable product releases.

Product: Microsoft Exchange Server 2007, Microsoft Exchange Server 2010
Component: IMAP4 Service
Standard: IETF RFC 3501: Internet Message Access Protocol - Version 4rev1

1 Overview

This document specifies the level of support provided by the Internet Message Access Protocol Version 4 (IMAP4) for Microsoft Exchange Server 2007. The IMAP4 service for Exchange Server is used by clients that implement IMAP4 to access and manipulate electronic mailboxes on a server in a way that is functionally equivalent to local folders.

2 Support Details

The use of the words "Required," "Recommended," and "Optional" in the titles of the sections below are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

2.1 Required Portions

The IMAP4 service implements all required portions of [RFC3501] with the following deviations.

2.1.1 RFC Section: 6.4.5. FETCH Command

Under certain conditions, the value of the **RFC822.SIZE** attribute is a MAPI size instead of a MIME size.

2.2 Recommended Portions

The IMAP4 service implements the following recommended portions of [RFC3501] that may affect interoperability.

2.2.1 RFC Section: 2.3.1.1. Unique Identifier (UID) Message Attribute

If a message is changed by another protocol, under certain conditions, the revised message replaces the existing message. The revised message is given a new UID.

2.2.2 RFC Section: 2.3.2. Flags Message Attribute

Exchange defines a keyword, $MDNSend, that is set on the message when Outlook sends a message delivery notification (MDN).

2.2.3 RFC Section: 6.2.2. AUTHENTICATE Command

Exchange supports the NT LAN Manager (NTLM), Kerberos, and PLAIN authentication mechanisms.

2.2.4 RFC Section: 6.3.8. LIST Command

If the mailbox name contains "\", then Exchange returns the mailbox name as a literal.

2.2.5 RFC Section: 6.3.9.LSUB Command

If the mailbox name contains "\", then Exchange returns the mailbox name as a literal.

2.3 Optional Portions

The IMAP4 service implements the following optional portions of [RFC3501] that may affect interoperability.

2.3.1 RFC Section: 5.1. Mailbox Naming

Exchange allows the characters "\" (backslash) and """ (double quotation marks) in folder names. Exchange supports the escaped format for these characters ("\\" and "\"").

2.3.2 RFC Section: 6.4.1. CHECK Command

The Exchange implementation of the **CHECK** command is equivalent to the **NOOP** command.

RFC Section: 6.4.4. SEARCH Command

Exchange supports only US-ASCII values for the **[CHARSET]** argument.

If the MIME size is known, then the values of the **SMALLER** and **LARGER** search keys are compared to the MIME size; otherwise, the values are compared to the MAPI size.

Exchange supports up to 10 levels of indirection within the argument of the **SEARCH** command.

Exchange supports only the $MDNSent keyword for the **KEYWORD** and **UNKEYWORD** search keys.

2.3.3 RFC Section: 6.5.1. X<atom> Command.

Exchange does not support the **X<atom>** command.

2.3.4 RFC Section: 7.1.ServerResponses -- Status Responses.

Exchange does not support the following status response codes: ALERT and PARSE.

2.3.5 RFC Section: 7.1.4. PREAUTH Response.

Exchange does not support the **PREAUTH** response.

2.3.6 RFC Section: 7.2.2. LIST Response.

Exchange does not support the \Noinferiors and \Unmarked name attributes.

3 Extensions

IMAP4 service extensions to [RFC3501] are as specified in [MS-OXIMAP4].

4 Related Standards

[MS-OXIMAP4] Microsoft Corporation, "Internet Message Access Protocol Version 4 (IMAP4) Extensions Specification", June 2008.

[RFC3501] Crispin, M., "Internet Message Access Protocol – Version 4rev1", RFC 3501, March 2003, http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3501.txt.

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997, http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt.